

ILLINOIS WEATHER & CROPS



ILLINOIS
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

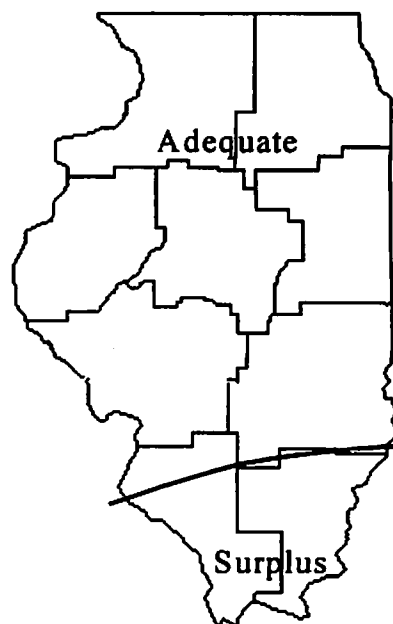
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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RELEASED: April 21, 1997 3 P.M., CT
VOL. 18, NO. 8

Corn planting progressed in the central region of the state last week but cool soils in the north kept planters in the shed and wet soils in the south allowed only limited fieldwork. Planting was near the halfway point in the west southwest district but was less than five percent in the northern and southern districts. Statewide, 12 percent of the corn crop had been planted compared to 12 percent last year and the five-year average of six percent. Damage from the extreme cold to wheat, alfalfa and fruit crops became more evident last week but did not appear as severe as first anticipated. Replanting vegetable crops began in the north last week and seeding of oats continued. As of April 20, 78 percent of the oat crop had been planted compared with 83 percent last year and the five-year average of 61 percent.

Wheat, alfalfa and pasture conditions continued to decline last week in response to the unseasonably cool spring temperatures. As of April 18, the wheat crop was rated one percent very poor, four percent poor, 21 percent fair, 61 percent good and 13 percent excellent. Alfalfa hay was rated one percent very poor, four percent poor, 32 percent fair, 55 percent good and eight percent excellent. Pasture was rated one percent very poor, seven percent poor, 36 percent fair, 49 percent good and seven percent excellent.

There was an average of 3.7 days suitable for fieldwork last week. Days suitable ranged from generally less than three in northern and southern areas to four or five across the central portion of the state. Topsoil moisture was rated six percent short, 77 percent adequate and 17 percent surplus as of April 18. Although soils dried some during the week, southern areas still have predominately surplus moisture. Other farm activities last week were applying fertilizer and herbicides, hauling grain, spreading manure and tending livestock.

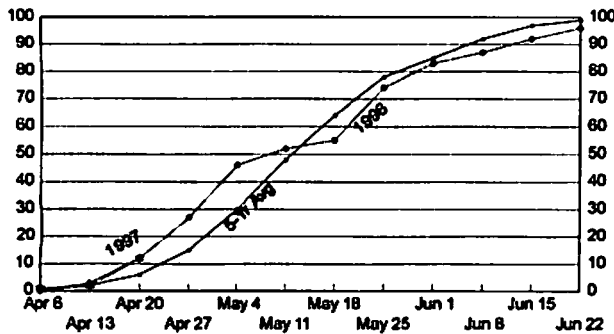


Topsoil Moisture
April 18

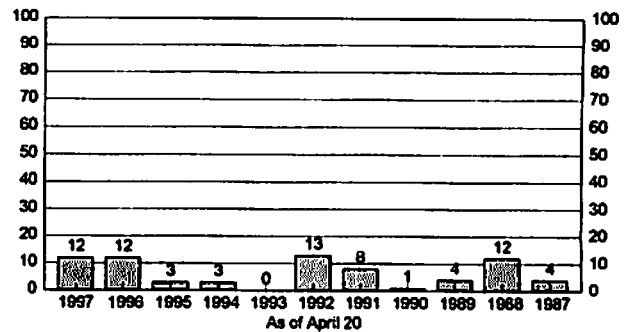
Crop Conditions

Crop	: Very Poor	: Poor	: Fair	: Good	: Excellent
April 18					
Winter Wheat	1	4	21	61	13
Alfalfa	1	4	32	55	8
Pasture	1	7	36	49	7

Corn - Percent Planted
Illinois



Corn - Percent Planted
Illinois



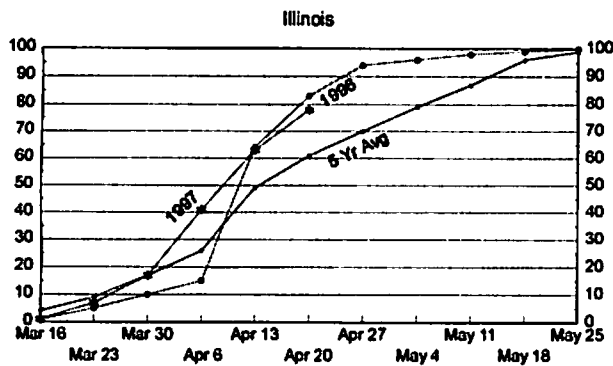
Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Topsoil Moisture

District	: Days Suitable for Fieldwork	: Topsoil Moisture
		: Very Short : Short : Adequate : Surplus
April 12-18		
Northwest	2.9	- 5 92 3
Northeast	5.0	- 10 90 -
West	1.1	- 6 84 10
Central	4.2	- 14 83 3
East	4.6	- 1 83 16
W Southwest	5.4	- 11 82 7
E Southeast	4.8	- 4 84 12
Southwest	2.4	- - 51 49
Southeast	1.6	- 1 36 63
State		
	3.7	- 6 77 17

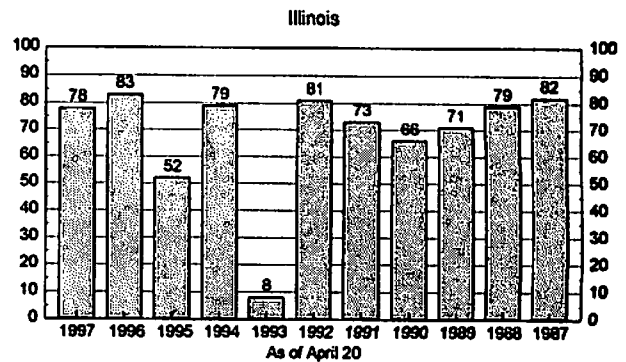
Crop Progress by District

		Corn	
District	:	Acreage	Percent
		Planted	
		April 20	
Northwest	:	1	
Northeast	:	1	
West	:	2	
Central	:	14	
East	:	12	
W Southwest	:	48	
E Southeast	:	16	
Southwest	:	3	
Southeast	:	1	
State	:	12	

Oats - Percent Seeded



Oats - Percent Seeded



Temperature and Precipitation

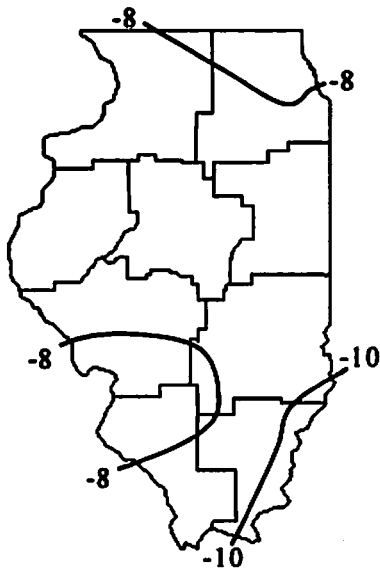
		Temperature			Precipitation		
District	:	Average	Normal	Departure	Total	Normal	Departure
		April 14 - 20					
Northwest	:	42.6	51.8	-9.1	.29	.86	-.57
Northeast	:	43.0	50.9	-7.9	.34	.82	-.48
West	:	45.9	54.7	-8.8	.21	.95	-.74
Central	:	45.3	53.9	-8.6	.32	.92	-.60
East	:	44.6	53.1	-8.5	.40	.90	-.51
W Southwest	:	47.6	55.8	-8.2	.33	.95	-.62
E Southeast	:	47.3	55.7	-8.4	.16	.93	-.77
Southwest	:	49.9	57.8	-7.9	.30	1.02	-.72
Southeast	:	48.7	57.9	-9.1	.35	1.05	-.71
State	:	46.0	54.5	-8.5	.30	.93	-.63

NEWSPAPER TIME VALUE

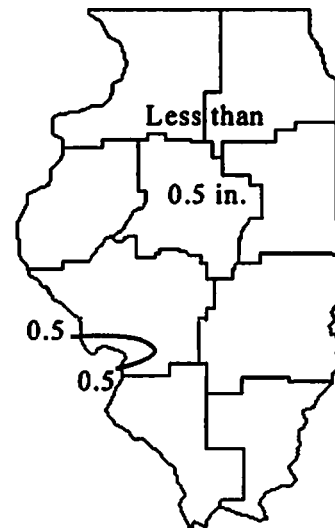
Illinois Weather & Crops
April 21, 1996

Illinois Weather & Crops (ISSN 0273-8635) is published weekly April-November, semimonthly in January, and monthly in December, February and March, by the Illinois Dept. of Agriculture, Illinois Agricultural Statistics Service, Room 54, Department of Agriculture Bldg., 801 Sangamon Ave., Springfield, IL 62702. For information on subscribing, send request to the above address. Periodical postage paid at Springfield, Illinois. Postmaster: Send Address Change to Illinois Weather & Crops, P.O. Box 19283, Springfield, IL 62794-9283.

Data and maps provided by the Illinois State Water Survey, Department of Natural Resources, 2204 Griffith Drive, Champaign, Il. 61820, (217)244-8226.



Temperature Departure
April 14-20



Precipitation Total
April 14-20

CROP PROGRESS INFORMATION in this report is provided voluntarily by local area officials of Farm Service Agency, Extension Service, National Resources Conservation Service, Farm Business Farm Management field staff, and agribusiness managers.

"Printed by authority of the State of Illinois" 4/21/97, 2,575, 1444

